This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Endocrine disease				
Type 2 diabetes; obesity	ELOVL family member 6, elongation of long-chain fatty acids (ELOVL6)	<i>In vitro</i> and rodent studies identified an ELOVL6 inhibitor that could help treat metabolic disorders such as diabetes and obesity. <i>In vitro</i> , the 3-sulfonyl-8-azabicyclo(3.2.1)octane-based compound inhibited human and mouse ELOVL6 activity with IC ₅₀ values of 79 and 94 nM, respectively. In mice, the inhibitor reduced Elov6 activity in a dose-dependent manner compared with vehicle. Next steps include evaluating the effects of ELOVL6 inhibition in rodent models of obesity and diabetes.	Patented for use in undisclosed indications; unavailable for licensing	Nagase, T. <i>et al. J. Med. Chem.</i> ; published online June 12, 2009; doi:10.1021/jm900488k Contact: Tsuyoshi Nagase, Merck Research Laboratories, Tsukuba, Ibaraki, Japan e-mail: tsnagase@gmail.com
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